

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan

Initial Community Input
Raw Comments Received At All Meetings
Updated As Of July 21, 2015

Midlothian Rotary Membership Meeting April 5, 2016	
Like about Midlothian	
Number	Comment
1	Low Crime
2	Good Schools
3	Rich History
4	Sense of Community- People and Social/Civic
5	Convenient- Core Services and Public Facilities
6	Good Residential Real Estate- Property Values
7	Rotary Clubs and Civic Groups
8	Midlothian Mines Park
9	Fire/Police- good coverage
10	John Tyler Community College- Asset that brings people into Midlothian
11	Current density is good, provides a balance
Change/Improve	
Number	Comment
1	More restaurants- locally owned
2	Better walking facilities
3	Double left out of West Chester- accidents, improved striping?
4	Speed limit too high in Village Core
5	Traffic- bypass?
6	Better bike/walk infrastructure
7	Stoplight at Farham & 60
8	Woolridge & 288- - stop?
9	Health care facilities?
10	Overbuilt commercial- move from old to new
11	Sycamore Square vacancy
12	Local vs. chains
13	Design & layout- keep with trends
14	Diversity of housing stock
15	Relief for Watkins ES
16	Small business startup support
17	Old Buckingham- need bike/ped facility
18	Village core- power lines buried
19	Twin Team & Robious still own land for library?
20	Tax ratio (70/30)- enterprise zone. Incentive business and investment sooner rather than later

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Lifelong Learning Institute Class May 13, 2016

What Makes a Community Great?

Number	Comment
1	Stores (occupied)
2	Schools
3	Parks and Rec- programs and open space
4	Transportation - transit and walkability
5	Town Green (Vienna)- public gathering
6	Cultural Arts Center
7	Visual Arts- seniors and kids
8	Upscale/major shopping - go to short pump or Hull street now
9	Mixed use development
10	Vibrant Corridor
11	Village concept - like Tom Garner's development
12	Community events
13	Vacant stores (concern)
14	Need Hotel
15	Buffers and Berms - good looking landscaping

What do you like/value about Midlothian?

Number	Comment
1	Rt. 288 - moves traffic- connects with Metro-Area
2	Trees
3	Hospitals - Health Care
4	Parks in Neighborhoods
5	Neighborhoods varied
6	Lifelong Learning Institute
7	Schools
8	John Tyler Community College
9	Sidewalks
10	YMCA
11	Lifelong Learning Institute
12	Small town feel
13	Convenience
14	Safe
15	Schools
16	Attractive overall - medians, plantings, library, building materials/Belgrade
17	288
18	Wegmans
19	Hospitals
20	Small town feel
21	Schools
22	Diversity of neighborhoods, people and structures (housing types)
23	Lifelong Learning Institute
24	Small village atmosphere
25	No large buildings-commercial-offices (we can see the sky)

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Lifelong Learning Institute Class May 13, 2016 (cont)	
26	Like Sycamore Square- see it revitalized
27	Like quaint
28	Like neighborhood restaurants
What would you change about Midlothian?	
Number	Comment
1	Start public trans. (city)
2	Van connecting areas
3	Transportation for commuters
4	Concerts- outdoor events
5	More central parks for concerts
6	Bike paths
7	Sidewalks
8	Bring stores to Sycamore Square (subsidize to attract)
9	Bring back farmers market
10	More upscale stores
11	Fill vacant stores
12	More public transportation
13	More walkable
14	Housing for 50+
15	More lighting
16	More restaurants (not fast food)
17	More parking at LLI
18	Less empty stores
19	More walking access (sidewalks)
20	Update Sycamore Square, and entice occupants
21	Senior housing - apts to rent that are not income restricted
22	Reduced traffic
23	Food Lion shopping center spruced up
24	Transportation for seniors who are socially isolated
What are the most pressing issues facing Midlothian over the next 5-10 years?	
Number	Comment
1	Attracting young families, but controlling growth so you don't have empty space just to build new. "Plan"
2	Schools too crowded
3	Local jobs
4	Add now - signs and publicity for events in the community
5	Aging population and housing
6	Nursing/rehab facilities for short term care
7	Transportation for elderly
8	Aging structures (Sycamore Square)
9	Neighborhood restaurants (not fast food)
10	Traffic
11	Keeping it updated and attractive
12	Senior transportation

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Lifelong Learning Institute Class May 13, 2016 (cont)	
13	Senior housing - independent not assisted living or nursing homes
14	Expanding Lifelong Learning Institute
15	Traffic
16	Vacant buildings
17	Keeping our image- safety - manageable scale
18	Aging buildings- turning shabby into shabby chic
19	Everyday needs met "village" term
20	Location Convenience
21	Don't want to feel old
In 25 (10) years, I want Midlothian to be recognized for...	
Number	Comment
1	Welcoming
2	Focal point - festival weekends, performing arts, sports
3	Well managed
4	If Sycamore Square not saved- turn it into the Village Green (dining outside with canopies etc.) Keep Crab Louis. Have Van pickups at the new green.
5	Vibrant
6	Mixed use community
7	Honoring history of Midlothian
8	Safe
9	Harmonious design
10	Small town feel
11	Good schools
12	Quality place to live
13	A stronger coalition and a true place at the table
14	Continuing to have a village feel (sense of place)
15	Sense of history
16	Neat to have churches
Group Discussion	
Number	Comment
What makes a small town?	
1	Small store vs. big box (like apothecary)
2	Boy scout - flags for holidays
3	Parade, Midlothian Days
Destinations- walking	
4	Restaurants
5	Sycamore Square - needs population
6	Signal for both sides of Midlo Mines Park
7	Park car once and walk between stores
8	Benches and socialize along sidewalks
Image	
9	Style- brick
10	Safe environment- low crime
11	It is a place "village"

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16

What Makes a Community Great?

Number	Comment
1	Central "meeting" place. With open space - downtown park
2	Trees/Landscape
3	Walkability
4	Transportation choices/connections
5	Mixed use: living, learning, working in close proximity
6	Security/safety
7	Excellent public facilities and amenities
8	Character- identity, personality, culture
9	Thought out- limited development to keep a "village of"
10	Village green for town events
11	Small town feel- shops, restaurants, parks in walking distance. Park and shop.
12	Unique/ Easily recognizable identity. Common theme that ties the community together. Architecture, signs, lights, flags, etc.
13	Community pride and involvement
14	If Chesterfield County is going to put in sidewalks to make the area more walkable you need to put in good street and sidewalk lighting. I came from a small old town (15,000 people) We had street lights everywhere.
15	Small town feel
16	Ability to walk or bike places
17	Lots of alternative routes for traffic
18	Public services that meet the needs
19	Reasonable taxes
20	Safety/security
21	A fun place to live. Things to do that are easily accessible: Festivals, Family events, Theater (plays/musicals), Art shows.
22	Parks - Active and passive
23	Bike trails - connect to other areas/trails
24	A community with fresh water and sewer. Wells can cause cancer. A water report revealed this to me.
25	Convenient businesses
26	Great schools
27	Transportation alternatives
28	Live- work- play balance
29	Amenities like restaurants and entertainment
30	Portland, Maine- Great re-use and re-purpose of existing buildings and spaces.
31	Oak Park, IL- great sense of community
32	When our youth recognize that the police are our underappreciated friends
33	You know your neighbors and aren't afraid to stop and talk to them in public
34	Focus on residential "Community" and not drive for commercial activities
35	Recognition of the contributions that have been made to help make the community what it is today

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16 (cont)	
36	Want to see historical places saved
37	Availability of resources necessary to live outside work time. For example- restaurants, drug stores, grocery stores, post office, doctor's office.
38	Design of traffic flow to allow easy access to above (comment 37) outside rush hour.
39	Limit to density of population such that there is still wildlife and natural areas.
40	Unique shop and restaurants, not multiple chain stores everywhere/every mall.
41	Colorado towns for their take on outdoor living and Greenville, S.C.(same)
42	Great schools
43	Walkability
44	Safe environment
45	Involved Community
46	Small town environment
47	People interacting with each other outside
48	Parks, Sidewalks gathering spots, good restaurants, shopping local
49	Sidewalks, full trees, flowers in bloom, friendly folk, little need to leave the village- everything is right here!
50	I would like to see more pedestrian and cycling access throughout Midlothian. Specifically within Salisbury across Midlothian Turnpike toward Charter Colony and to Wegmans. Safe crossing Midlo Turnpike. Bridge crossing would be perfect.
51	A small walkable/livable community with the services needed for everyday life. I have good friend who live in Cary, NC - Cary has an extensive network of "Greenways" which allows folks in Cary an expansive park system to set out and about.
52	People live/work and play here. Need good restaurants and bars with local feeling (like fan district with corner bars easy to walk to so less need to drive to it). Ability for aging population to want to stay (i.e. services/volunteer opps/smaller housing or in law residence options)
53	A strong community identity and design standard that reflect that
54	Design standards for streetscapes and businesses
55	Safety, ability to get around without driving, neighborhoods that work together, schools close to neighborhoods
56	Provide adequate amenities to support those who continue to reside in community in this area
57	Live/work/play space. Densities that support Watkins. Public transit. Aging in place.
58	Community Involvement :)
59	Safe neighborhoods
60	Good schools

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16 (cont)

What do you like/value about Midlothian?

Number	Comment
1	Great schools, accessible resources (libraries, doctors, groceries, etc)
2	Close to 288
3	Quiet
4	Good parks close by
5	Good stores close by
6	Wide variety of housing types, ages, price range, designs
7	Small town feel
8	Love our access to everything especially Lifelong Learning Institute. Great place for 50+. Like our small town look and feel.
9	Good schools
10	Good community identity
11	Low crime
12	Midlo Mines Park, pond across from park and walking paths there
13	Love the Mines Park
14	Love the Tacky Light Run
15	Small village feel
16	History
17	Small town feel
18	Great schools
19	Relatively quiet neighborhoods
20	Low crime rate
21	Schools
22	Green spaces
23	Home values
24	Small town feel but close to city
25	"small town" feel but with access to urban resources
26	I like the history of the Village. We need to place more of an interest to tourists with the Midlothian Mines the Old Jewett Hall etc.
27	I love the "village" look
28	Great schools :)
29	Great Fire Dept and EMT
30	Community Feeling
31	Preserve the history
32	Good location close to 288
33	Preserved history without encumbering modern necessities
34	Keep the village concept. Small shopping center, no high rises, minimize high density apts.
35	Keeping Architectural standards for business in the Village
36	Its heritage, its sense of community, its desire to maintain its sense of identity
37	Strong residential options. Affordable to high end. Access, good "location"
38	It is safe and clean. People take pride in living here. Close to everything
39	Convenient distance to city life in downtown Richmond and good schools

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16 (cont)

41	The small neighborhood feel. We are losing Sycamore Square and empty areas (example Winterfield and 60 corner)
42	Plan for Green space/park areas
43	Outstanding Fire and EMS Dept
44	House lot size
45	Parks
46	Village atmosphere
47	History
48	The sense of place/community
49	Village scale and need to enhance
50	Pedestrian connections- (sidewalks, parks, street lamps) Need to expand
51	Midlo has a great history, but it shouldn't be so married to that. New ideas can't be incorporated in its continuing life. Be open to change.
52	I don't wish to restrict others from developing their land as long as it does not impact my use and feel as is.
53	Nice community, good schools, nearby convenient shopping
54	The small village feel but everything we need is easy to reach without getting on a major interstate like road. Good place for seniors to age in place.
55	There is a sense of place here that needs to be respected and enhanced.
56	The "village" feel close proximity to businesses esp. groceries.
57	Chesterfield County has great police, fire and EMS service... please do everything possible to maintain this!
58	I like the old time look. The quiet, the Old Coal Mines. Please do not destroy the last historical places around the old coal mines.
59	The true history of the Village, which has not been fully documented. Mix of residential, commercial, schools (ES, MS, HS all together) library, parks, churches, community college and historic sites all in close proximity- central to the village.
60	I like the village concept. I like keeping history alive.
61	History. Mines Park/Lake. Community involvement. The history should be celebrated more - very rich from early 18th century, Huguenot settlement (Old Stage Rd, Old Buckingham rd), War of 1812, soldiers of WW1 and 2, coal mining. Most people do not know the history.
62	There is a sense of place when you pass through the village that needs to be maintained.
63	Sense of town and Quaintness.
64	Great safe place to work and play
65	Great schools and sense of community
66	Quiet and small communities. A village atmosphere. Old timers miss clean streets, less noise, clean air and walking paths.
67	More green space for wildlife to roam. Birds, squirrels and other deer and small animals.
68	Businesses that pay their fair share when leave blighted, empty building.

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16 (cont)

- | | |
|----|---|
| 69 | A place where adults can walk safely along the roadways without be hit, and police do nothing about it. |
| 70 | Lights should be regulated, not out most of the time. |

What would you change about Midlothian?

Number	Comment
1	Do not add more apartments (too transient - care less)
2	Desperately need a place in Midlothian for large groups to hold breakfast, lunch and dinner meetings.
3	Post office and other buildings need to be more current and attractive.
4	We do not need more big box stores no matter how much fluff we add to the building. Don't need 5 grocery stores.
5	More walking trails that are well maintained.
6	More community activities to keep people and children involved, include Lifelong Learning Center.
7	Utility poles need to be removed and go underground.
8	Flashing lights before entering village to warn that speed limit is enforced.
9	Newer schools with adequate capacity.
10	Walkability in the "Village" - pedestrian crossing buttons across N. Woolridge and 60 (or alternatives- bridge, tunnel, whatever)
11	Small local shops - rather than another chain or box store.
12	We have a problem with trying to treat all of Chesterfield County the same - its okay to develop positive distinctions for the various areas without necessarily leaving out areas.
13	Add a recreational center. We do not have any public parks within/around Rt 60.
14	Underground utilities from Woolridge to Charter Colony.
15	Add more mom and pop restaurants!
16	Keep the village looking quaint.
17	New Schools
18	Is the rail line a possible commuter option? Where else do you have such an opportunity?
19	Midlo turnpike traffic :(
20	Small town feel- Stop "big box" and "discount" developments Encourage unique/one of a kind/shop local retail Keep existing/create more community green space - would be great to have a community park/gathering place for events/parade/4th of July.
21	Traffic lights to control access and leaving neighborhoods (Soveirn Grace/Charter Colony Parkway - Across from Midlo HS)
22	More bike trails for commuting
23	More programs at the amphitheater (story telling, acoustic music - not loud, patriotic assemblies, etc)

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16 (cont)

24	Accessories that are Midlo specific - (hats, shirts, bags, etc). Maybe a recurring color scheme in store trim, accessories (above), that would unify the feel.
25	Love the colonial features - keep it.
26	North side of Midlothian Village needs upgrade to sidewalk along Rt 60. And addition sidewalks and street lights. Walkable to LLI, Sycamore Square, Post Office, Etc. Impossible without walking in the street. Westfield Drive and other side streets need improvements. Lets spruce up the "old village".
27	I would remove the power/phone poles along Midlothian Turnpike, from Woolridge Rd to Winterfield. The cables could be buried to provide transmission and service.
28	Walkability - be able to cross Midlothian Turnpike on foot or bike without risking life.
29	Careful balance of high density residential development. Not too much and high quality so that does not become shoddy after 1 generation.
30	Green spaces/walking paths.
31	Why were there no sidewalks and pedestrian crossing lights installed by the Wegman's?
32	Empty buildings and less traffic. A control of traffic patterns from schools.
33	Fresh water for all who want it.
34	Bottle-neck of Rte 60/Sycamore Village
35	Utility lines are total eyesore for an upscale community.
36	Bury the power lines on Midlo Turnpike in the Village.
37	Needs to be more of a village center. Midlothian is just Route 60 going past some buildings. There is no feel of a village gathering place.
38	Extend our sidewalks and path systems to connect our neighborhoods.
39	Create medians, tree plantings to increase the Human Scale of Midlothian Turnpike going through the "village"
40	Allow some infill buildings to create some density and housing choices in the "village" area
41	Celebrate and embrace our Midlothian history, create and/or enhance our interpretive signage.
42	Restore and create reliable safe transit options to reduce traffic: VRE commuter service to downtown Richmond. Amtrak service West to Lynchburg, Roanoke and North to Washing DC New York.
43	Take a look at the roads, Salisbury Drive, Crowder Drive, Westfield Drive. They need repairs to be able to handle the increasing traffic. Also, enforce the speed limits as they are "cut through" streets.
44	The traffic light at Salisbury and Midlothian Turnpike should be a working light. It is not a pedestrian friendly village when you cant cross the street safely.
45	Update infrastructure, organizational plan (like old plans for Gardner property with a cut through by the middle school.
46	Some how re-route Route 60 around the village

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16 (cont)	
47	Control the size of individual developments (retail, housing, etc)
48	Need a way to connect the two sides of Rt. 60.
49	More sidewalks- would love to see Coalfield Rd have full sidewalks from Woolridge to the end (mines trail rd and then around the roundabout to the very end).
50	Would not develop any more new residential areas until school/overcrowding is addressed.
51	More young adult entertainment, they all leave for college and don't come back until they have a family.
52	It would be great to reinstall historical monuments in the median in "village" and/or create a community village green. Maybe at the middle school? With paths linking to the Mines Park.
53	County must not be so afraid of spending money for county amenities, such as more open space, bike lanes, sidewalks.
54	Walton Bluff Parkway must have a shoulder or sidewalk for runners/walkers. Dangerous situation with 2 lanes, a double line, grass 2' high and no shoulder.
55	A larger Midlothian Library
56	Midlothian Library needs serious remodeling or possible bulldozing.
57	Network of bike paths/trails
58	More pedestrian access- bridges over 60, crosswalks/lights/button to cross throughout the village.
59	Provide pedestrian crosswalk in the village.
60	Provide more pedestrian and bicycle facilities.
61	Need more lights and sidewalks, more walkability
62	More thought needs to go into median strips including across from Long and Foster sign (no u turn ignored)
63	Traffic need to slow and more opportunities to take left turns onto Midlothian
64	Sycamore Square needs to be more front and center
65	Need more local restaurants
66	A great community shouldn't have 5 or 6 lanes of pavement in the middle of it. Add middle medians through the village?
67	Midlothian needs more pedestrian sidewalks and bikeways - Coalfield Rd has a bad with joggers and bikers - the YMCA generates the exercise bug - but then the people spill on the road (Coalfield Rd is 2 lane) Dangerous for them and cars.
68	More sidewalks and street lights.
69	No more strip malls that empty out in a few years leaving behind ugly empty stores behind.
70	More architecture like or mixed as in Millworks.
71	Increase infrastructure - roads, schools - these attract businesses and families and can balance the excess supply of grocery stores.
72	No more stores lets fill all the empty stores at Westchester Commons or Sycamore Square. Love the area but to many empty stores.

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16 (cont)	
73	More sidewalks/walking trails. More walkability.
74	More grass and trees in the village.
75	Who can look at front street landscaping of h e"Atlantic" maybe mulch if nothing else.
76	Please brick the median triangle crossing between "Atlantic" and the library. Its not mowed anyway.
77	Stop building any malls/parking lots and stores with gas pumps
78	Create a village or town center for commerce as well as commuting gathering.
79	More parks - more areas left with benches and sidewalks to encourage people to walk
80	Don't overgrow, traffic bad enough now.
81	I would stop the building and take a close look at what we are taking down, there are sites in the woods that we are not aware of.
82	Maintaining the village lifestyle and involvement of all citizens including non-subdivisions areas
83	More mixed use development. Office - residential - retail all together where people can work live and play. Some new urbanism but with lower density.
84	There needs to be strong development guidelines as part of the Plan and enforced by county. For example- streetlights have been required but maintenance not enforced. This should really be a government function.
85	The "village" needs updating drastically. Sycamore Square needs Visionary leadership! Tear down old houses at Winterfield and 60!
86	Do we really need more grocery stores in Midlothian. We have Food Lion, Walmart, Kroger already- Now Aldi's and Lidle's? Why. Lets refurbish Sycamore Square.
87	I don't feel that we should be building more shopping areas and retail businesses- we already have too many empty stores - eg Sycamore Square, Martins complex.
88	Traffic controls for Midlo Turnpike- slow speed limit down to 45 mph between Winterfield and 288
89	Longer turn lane from Midlothian Turnpike heading West onto Winterfield Rd.
90	More restaurants and entertainment.
91	Effort to keep properties maintained to ensure salability and high property values.
92	I take my grand-daughter to the park over on Robious Rd to play at their nice playground. She loves it. We need a nice playground in Midlothian for our children and their parents to go to with picnic tables and bathroom, fenced in for safety and areas for parents to sit while the little ones play.
93	More recreational areas.
94	More sidewalks and street lights.
95	Definitely a new school to handle the growth.
96	More condos or senior living. Much demand in the Midlothian area.

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16 (cont)

97	Coalfield Road improvements: shoulders and sidewalks all along both sides to its southern end... connect -reconnect the southern terminus to Luck's Lane. This circulation discontinuity makes no good sense adds concentrated unnecessary traffic to other roads. (Now dangerous to the many runners and cyclists)
98	Need street lights in subdivisions and main roads.
99	Would put in a "Village Green" in town of Midlo.
100	More condos - or senior living.
101	More parks
102	Bike trails
103	Additional Sidewalks near high school.
104	Use night lighting judiciously - not like John Tyler Parking garage
105	Small businesses especially restaurants - not chains
106	Add crosswalks
107	Create multi-use paths/bikeways that connect this area
108	Seek and keep open spaces for public access

What are the most pressing issues facing Midlothian over the next 5-10 years?

Number	Comment
1	East/west traffic flow along route 60.
2	Traffic thru "the village"
3	Roads, Roads, Roads. Too much development and the secondary roads can not handle.
4	Growth of housing and business coincides with infrastructure growth.
5	Need more affordable 55+ homes.
6	Make use of proffers to benefit community where collected.
7	Traffic and congestion very pressing issues.
8	A regional vision.
9	Love the area but we need a new school and no more stores.
10	We don't need more strip malls! Revitalize what we have in the "village". Resist developers adding spas, drug stores etc. Have enough of these! Be visionary.
11	Alternative bypass travel routes to take pressure off residential roads- specifically reconnect Coalfield Rd to Lucks Lane and Rt 288.
12	Fast traffic driving thru the village!
13	Enforce the speed limit through the Village (on Midlo Turnpike) 35 mph.
14	It is not safe to make left turns from Sycamore Square drive and Salisbury Drive onto Midlo turnpike.
15	Stop all the repeat chain stores.
16	Drastically reduce the size of new commercial sites.
17	Road overcrowding
18	The pressing issue in the 5- 10 years will be traffic growth. We saw a good example this weekend with the opening of Wegmans. Grid lock! Need to plan for traffic flow on route 60 and 360 also 288.
19	Need to add more jobs and employees too much reliance on residential and retail.

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16 (cont)	
20	Increased population and traffic on existing roads.
21	Aging infrastructure and schools. You can pushback on some retail but don't push away developers! They increase taxes and provide jobs. Push back on low-density developments that don't "help" the community.
22	Need more police presence. There is a noticeable increase in crime and gangs in the area.
23	More consistently connected amenities - pedestrian and bicycle paths, sidewalks, crosswalks.
24	Traffic calming along route 60.
25	Need to concretely address residents in ages of 55-68/70 who want to stay in their homes and Midlothian.
26	Need for higher density to cultivate the desired quality, amenities and community environment - served by well developed road and transit network.
27	Say no to developers and county planning commission, They are part of the existing problem.
28	Need plan to reuse/repurpose old and or recreate retail space.
29	Keep small town feel
30	Control/offer alternatives for high traffic areas (rt 60)
31	Consider ways to expand use of public properties (i.e. schools, parks, library) to be multipurpose.
32	Invest in maintaining and improving schools - to increase local civic pride.
33	Maintaining viable retail and reuse of existing buildings.
34	No bus routes ever
35	Revitalizing and transforming vacant and aging commercial properties into new places that become community amenities, new businesses and assets. Ex Sycamore Square.
36	Maintaining good balance of residential and commercial areas.
37	Making sure there are adequate opportunities for recreation.
38	No more apts. Nore more grocery stores. Don't want to look like Robious Rd.
39	Vehicle traffic on Rt 60 through the Village
40	Westward flow of business. Lets stop neglecting areas of business where so many vacancies exist - A policy to address the vacant commercial properties.
41	Pressure for continuing westward decay along Midlothian Turnpike and Big Box Midlothian toward 288.
42	Not enough affordable housing to allow for a diverse population to live near each other.
43	Capture open spaces for public use; don't over develop.
44	Do not build more malls until existing ones are fully occupied (or almost full).
45	Traffic needs to be controlled as we have more seniors aging in place.
46	Don't lose the "village" charm.

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16 (cont)

47	To keep small Village atmosphere. Not to overdevelop every square inch of land.
48	Make/keep area accessible to all age groups.
49	Affordable senior housing and support services.
50	When will Rt 60 from 288 to Countyline Road be treated as part of decent plan instead of step child?
51	No more strip malls
52	Keep the small community feeling. Kids in schools close by, crime rate remain low and property values stable with addition of apartments into real estate mix.
53	Traffic through Village is becoming a problem.
54	Schools: Keep the Village of Midlothian Students in Midlothian High
55	Traffic on 60
56	City moving in and loss of spaces being occupied and moving west.
57	Increased traffic in the face of no transportation alternatives.
58	Public transportation.
59	Where are the parallel roads and when will they come to relive the traffic on Rt 60?
60	Retail corporate identity and pressure to make Midlothian look like most "communities" found in any city/state.
61	Big box retailers- contrary to village concept. Need plan to stop this.
62	More commercial tax base while maintaining residential community.
63	Addressing Rt. 60 and coming pressure to widen.
64	Schools- begin with healthy attractive neighborhoods. Would like more county "attractiveness" enforcement.
65	Aging village area in need redevelopment.
66	High density housing, Short Pump looks like N. Va and developers have smaller open land in Midlothian Village.
67	Connect to city of Richmond. Light Rail?
68	Sprawl, Traffic, Aging Community.
69	Development and redevelopment of parcels. This can change a community and its identity. Need to maintain sense of place, historical connections, pedestrian friendly.
70	Being in the area near County Line Road, and seeing the heirs of properties that have been in these families for 100 years, not be able to keep the properties in their families (most being from one or 2 root family members) due to the taxes on these properties - because they front on a Rt 60 address which has all been zoned commercial for at least 40 years. These people NEED sewer to be able to do anything with this land. When will sewer be out to the county line and connectable at a reasonable rate for the residences here?
71	We have too many empty stores. How do we make them appealing to retail etc and get them to come in?
72	We need places of recreation for our teens, well supervised, where they can gather with friends and just hang out and stay out of trouble.

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16 (cont)

73	Regional connections and coordination with regional vision for the county and metro RVA.
74	One issue would be traffic and speeding on Midlothian Turnpike
75	Develop the Mines Park into a full blown tourist attraction. It could be big if you don't destroy the historical sites.
76	Overcrowding in schools due to increased residential development.
77	Traffic thru the village
78	Extend Woolridge Rd thru to Old Hundred. Connect Woolridge extension to Otterdale. Connect North Otterdale at creek. Open up Salisbury Drive into Salisbury.
79	Insulating the village from low-quality commercial development.
80	High -quality redevelopment, particularly commercial/retail vacancies.
81	Not becoming a place where people die or get sick with clean water. More well testing by the county. Help to keep the water clear and clean.

In 25 years, I want Midlothian to be recognized for...

Number	Comment
1	Small community feeling with convenience
2	Great schools
3	Safe Community
4	Walkability to shopping and restaurants
5	Schools, community feel, safety
6	A 24 hour community- A great mix of residential and commercial so people don't have to drive to live their lives. Lots of different housing types/opportunities.
7	Vibrant cultural community/ Places that can be reached by walking. Interesting village feel.
8	An inclusive neighborhood. If we want a village feel we need to build gathering places for neighborhoods.
9	Safe Community
10	Village values design and atmosphere
11	Planning and implementing change with a firm plan... not one that changes based upon the "latest" proposal for development.
12	To be recognized as a unique community that embraces change and managed same.
13	Satisfying needs in all phases of life- singles, young married, mid-career adults, empty nesters, retirees, later stages of life.
14	Being a great community with high property values safe neighborhoods and opportunities for transportation choices (not just auto but bicycle, pedestrian and transit).
15	No apartments period
16	Still want to see "the village" atmosphere. Not more shopping centers and grocery stores.
17	An eclectic walkable community.
18	Easy access, preserved history, hometown community, modern convenience.

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16 (cont)	
19	A prosperous, lively village full of active and creative, vibrant small businesses and arts community that us easy to navigate (walk, bike, ride) and gather in places/spaces that inspire and dare fun for all ages!
20	A village with a character. I grew up in Kensington, MD which is now an antique center for the entire DC suburban area. Something similar would be nice.
21	Good restaurants, shopping, community feel, walking to locations.
22	... being a vibrant mixed-use community for living, working and learning with a consistent visual identity, scale and character, high quality development and robust roadway and public transit connections to the rest of the metro area. BRT down Midlothian to the City!
23	Intergenerational living. Unique character and design. Integration of commercial, residential, retail and entertainment spaces.
24	School qualities - including access to higher education.
25	Safety, shopping, good home value, good schools.
26	A vital mixed-use integrated community with state-of-the -art transportation.
27	A destination place with parks, great shopping and specialty stores, not the big chain stores. Walking paths, bike paths, Innsbrook style of concert/entertainment. Garden style landscaping that is well lit and safe with cafes, coffee shops and local restaurants.
28	Allow "mother-in-law" accessory housing units in well-designed small outbuildings in our older large lot "large 2 story" colonial neighborhoods to create housing choices four our aging boomers.
29	Quality of living- add museum, art outlets and theaters.
30	Its historical significance of all communities.
31	Innovative communities that are well balanced and have efficiency. Great Schools.
32	Its village identity. Connectivity- sidewalks- bike trails etc. Recognized as a great community: festivals, live theater, special events, awards. Small unique retail shopping. Residential/retail mixed.
33	A strong community feeling! Preserve the history, but still need to make improvements and modernize. Great schools!
34	A strong economy, great jobs and friendly neighborhoods.
35	Small town "feel".
36	I would like Midlothian to still have the small town village feel in 25 years.
37	Young people can be proud of. Not out crowding. Trolleys be ride around the village as well as visit the businesses.
38	Smaller homes for baby boomers can live in. Make the cost of living meet the salaries of all, not just the rich.
39	First coal mines in the US. First incline railroad in county, plus a few more that I know about.
40	
41	Schools, Quality of living, friendly and safe.
42	Safety, Village atmosphere, preserving history.

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Community Input Workshop at Midlothian HS Library - 5/23/16 (cont)

Community Groups in the Area

Number	Comment
1	Queens mill Community Association
2	Village of Midlothian Volunteer Coalition
3	Midlothian Business Alliance - MBA
4	Queensgate Subdivision
5	Walton Park
6	St. Edward's Church - Huguenot Rd
7	Charter Colony/Madison Village HOA
8	Virginia Association of Railway Patrons (transit growth)
9	Rosemont Homeowners (Rosemonthoa.org)
10	Winfree Memorial Baptist Church
11	Midlothian Ruritans
12	All churches
13	Le Gordan/Garnett Ln Civic Association
14	Briarwood Civic Association
15	Lifelong Learning Institute
16	YMCA
17	James River Rotary
18	Grace Bible Church
19	Queensmill Community Association
20	First Baptist Church of Midlothian
21	Chesterfield Historical Society
22	Brandermill Community Association
23	Midlothian Wood Condo Association
24	Winfree Memorial Baptist Church
25	Charter Colony

Walton Park Neighborhood Meeting - 5/27/16

What Makes a Community Great?

Number	Comment
1	Safety - Low Crime
2	People - diversity - age
3	Small town feel - proximity to city
4	Activities
5	Good schools
6	Small Scale
7	Walkable - accessible
8	Affordable - cost of living
9	Gathering Spaces
10	Sports
11	Libraries

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Walton Park Neighborhood Meeting - 5/27/16 (cont)

What do you like/value about Midlothian?

Number	Comment
1	Great schools
2	Home Value
3	People
4	Events - Tacky Light Run, Parade
5	Civic pride - beauty
6	Family focus
7	Midlothian Mines park
8	Bike/Run - Walkable
9	Dining - local choice
10	Good commute
11	288
12	Citizen involvement - PTA
13	Library

What would you change about Midlothian?

Number	Comment
1	No more grocery (maybe Trader Joes)
2	Pedestrian crossing Rt 60 and Woolridge (besides tunnel)
3	New Elementary School
4	Less development (residential)
5	Stop cutting down trees
6	Don't move Fire/EMS out of village
7	Residential development impact on schools
8	Improve Midlothian Library - meeting space is hard to get

What are the most pressing issues facing Midlothian over the next 5-10 years?

Number	Comment
1	Improving walking and biking (connect to Wegmans)
2	Cross Route 60 - don't let it become a divide
3	Kids need a safe crossing at the Middle School
4	Traffic concerns (but don't 3 lane village)
5	Slow in Village (without roundabouts, tables)
6	Concern of empty storefronts (like Cloverleaf area)
7	Look at existing zoning and existing uses
8	Don't become Short Pump or West Chester - traffic, commercial, lose country feel
9	Undeveloped land left - what can happen on it?
10	Conservation Easement at Midlothian entry property
11	No Big boxes (like Bon Air)

In 25 years, I want Midlothian to be recognized for...

Number	Comment
1	Families
2	Craft breweries and wineries
3	Not looking aged
4	Vibrant

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Walton Park Neighborhood Meeting - 5/27/16 (cont)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 5 | Extensive greenways and trails |
| 6 | The Place to Be... |
| 7 | Tacky Light Run |

Midlothian HS Faculty Meeting - 6/6/16

What do you like/value about Midlothian?

- | Number | Comment |
|--------|-------------------|
| 1 | Midlothian HS! |
| 2 | Capital Ale House |

What would you change about Midlothian?

- | Number | Comment |
|--------|---|
| 1 | Bike/walk accessibility |
| 2 | Slow the growth of apts |
| 3 | Library open on Thursdays and Sunday |
| 4 | Crosswalks |
| 5 | Don't switch the school start times |
| 6 | Traffic on Charter Colony and Woolridge |

In 25 years, I want Midlothian to be recognized for...

- | Number | Comment |
|--------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Quality of life |
| 2 | Sense of community |
| 3 | Good schools |
| 4 | No more grocery |
| 5 | Culture |
| 6 | Festivals |
| 7 | Central gathering spaces |

Library "Pop-up" 1 - 06/29/16

General Comments

- | Number | Comment |
|--------|---|
| 1 | Pedestrian crossings at Woolridge and 60 |
| 2 | Lighting in neighborhoods |
| 3 | Sidewalks |
| 4 | Connected parks |
| 5 | More parks with facilities |
| 6 | Pedestrian crossing with flashing lights |
| 7 | More places for community gardening |
| 8 | Preserve trees/ replant trees. Parking lot landscaping with trees |
| 9 | Green environmentally friendly buildings, green roofs |
| 10 | Bike trails/lanes |
| 11 | Walkability |

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Library "Pop-up" 2 - 07/11/16	
General Comments	
Number	Comment
1	Preserve what's historical and meaningful
2	Like the sense of community
3	Pedestrian friendly - improve
4	More schools
5	Preserve small-town feeling Village area
6	Keep unique design of Sycamore Square because I feel safe shopping in there. There are plenty of strip malls around already - many vacant and convenient get away areas for crime.
7	More businesses to increase tax base
8	Focus on revitalizing existing commercial buildings
9	Services/destinations for families
10	Control speed limit on Westfield Road! Not safe. Consider a speed bump. Has become a speedway.
11	More restaurants
12	Senior center with activities
13	Connectivity and walkability
14	Age in place housing
15	Crosswalk at Woolridge and Midlothian
16	Limited growth Evergreens and perennial flowers. Everything draught resistant and low maintenance.
17	Things for retirees, gathering spaces

MBA Social - 07/07/16	
What do you like/value about Midlothian?	
Number	Comment
1	The design and layout, architecture of Millworks
2	Landscaping flowers, foliage, vistas. The beauty!
3	Character "Village" architecture
4	Great Schools
What would you change about Midlothian?	
Number	Comment
1	Upgrade Sycamore Square and the shopping center across the street
2	Outdoor farmers market with local produce and local meats and poultry
3	Old town village, European feel
4	Better roads- extend Village Mill Dr to Charter Colony, more parallel roads like Westfield, etc.
5	Replace Sycamore Square with a mixed-use development. (Sorry for the reference - West Broad Village)
6	Range of housing choices - need to concentrate population in compact centers
7	Better business/citizen interaction and partnerships

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

MBA Social - 07/07/16 (cont)	
8	If keeping area a village, then take seriously and commit fully to village design
9	More local restaurants
10	Crosswalk for YMCA - Millworks
11	Create a venue in Village for festivals, art shows, music etc.
12	Promote existing community assets
13	Wine and beer festivals
14	Concerts
15	Venues/Festivals with food trucks! (Attracts young people!)
16	Crosswalk in front of Midlothian Middle (several kids cross Midlothian Turnpike)
17	More sidewalks, bike lanes and parks! Also, flowers on medians.
18	Outdoor concerts - Midlo Mines
19	Brand Midlothian
20	Large size music venue and creative arts center
21	Extend Village Mill Dr to Charter Colony
22	More events at Midlothian Mines
23	Figure out how to get people biking and walking. How do you get residents across Midlo Turnpike
24	Sidewalks everywhere
25	Clean up and landscape medians
26	Lacks panache
27	Crosswalks and Sidewalks (i.e. to Kroger)
28	County owned parcels on 60
29	Partner with John Tyler for greater use by students
30	Affordable housing options
31	Walkable mixed use destinations, outdoor seating, diverse connectivity, shopping, living space.
32	Convert the old Ukrops into a community center and use for events. Large space.
33	Cultural arts center with theater, dance, music
34	Yoga, Festivals (attracts young people)
What are the most pressing issues facing Midlothian over the next 5-10 years?	
Number	Comment
1	Transportation
2	Historical recognition
3	Sidewalks
4	Controlling growth so that village continues to grow like a "town"
5	How to truly build "community" as opposed to "jousting" and disconnected business and shopping centers
6	Developing mixed use space
7	Protecting itself from decay. Having a plan.
8	Current and potentially vacant retail (grocery stores) and declining retail centers.
9	Traffic

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

MBA Social - 07/07/16 (cont)	
10	Vacant retail space (Sycamore Square)
11	Attracting businesses and helping them grow
12	Rental property standards, blight assessment, code enforcement
13	Trash/ high grass along roads
In 25 years, I want Midlothian to be recognized for...	
Number	Comment
1	The best place to live!
2	Refer to 5 Villages plan. Chester, Bon Air, Ettrick, Midlothian, Matoaca,
3	Celebrate black history of Village on going
4	Needs panache
5	A Place that is truly a place. A there , not another generic community.
6	Great place... to live, to raise a family, to work, to play, to retire
7	Houses increase in value more than other areas.
8	Having a great sense of community.
9	Happy People!

Midlothian Kiwanis Meeting - 07/12/16	
What do you like/value about Midlothian?	
Number	Comment
1	Small welcoming area as now exists
2	Hospitals close by
3	Food store oasis!
4	Education system- Top 10 place to raise children
5	Parks many
6	Access to highways
7	History mines/preserve and promote
8	Quaint shopping- Sycamore Square
9	I like the Mid. Mines Park area with lake area for leisure and recreational activities
10	Would like to see Midlothian develop more affordable housing for aging population
11	Safe - peace feel safe even not in gated community
12	Village identity, Coalition voice strong
What would you change about Midlothian?	
Number	Comment
1	Bike trail
2	Green space on west end of village
3	Vacant land- not maintaining property
4	Bus service - alternative transportation
5	Want to walk to library and grocery
6	Inappropriate use of residential property- constant yard sale
7	Vacant and aging commercial property deteriorating

Midlothian Community Special Area Plan
Initial Community Input

Midlothian Kiwanis Meeting - 07/12/16 (cont)	
What are the most pressing issues facing Midlothian over the next 5-10 years?	
Number	Comment
1	Above ground power line - power outages?
2	Overcrowding at Watkins ES
3	Food Lion shopping enter gateway to east
4	AM traffic on 288 backup
5	Commercial aging and vacancy
6	Social service needs, more central or spread out throughout county. Have to drive far to reach some services.
7	Places for entertainment both for adults and kids
8	Increased traffic in village
In 25 years, I want Midlothian to be recognized for...	
Number	Comment
1	Sycamore square - senior housing- walk to everything!
2	Shopping and restaurant hub (like carytown) \$\$
3	Family friendly
4	Destination place
5	Village feel
6	Quality place for seniors
7	Martins as farmers market/public space